personnel of Signal Regiment who died in 1994 till date on compassionate grounds;

(b) the reasons for delay in appointing the dependents of deceased personnel and action contemplated against the officials responsible therefor, and

(c) by when the above appointments are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (c) Sir, only one case of compassionate appointment is pending in Signal Regiment of Station Headquarters, Delhi Cantt. Delay in offering appointment to the eldest son of the deceased Government servant is attributable, partly, to his insistence for the posts which were not available and partly, to his delayed completion of requisite formalities for which no official can be held responsible, as such. Appointment will, however, be offered after completion of requisite official action.

Unauthorise use of Defence land in Maharashtra

4154. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of growing instances of unauthorised use of Army land for commercial purposes brought to the notice of Government during the past five years, State-wise;

(b) the action taken thereon particularly in Maharashtra;

(c) whether Government have approved proposals for lease of defence land which is not in immediate use for the defence purposes, to the NGOs during past five years, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of similar proposals pending and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (d) Informaiton is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sale of fake letters for Army Jobs

4155. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Indian Express dated the 22nd March, 1997 regarding fake letters for Army jobs on sale;

(b) if so, the action taken against the culprits; and

(c) the measures taken to give wide publicity to Army recruitment procedures to prevent youths being cheated in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The culprits have been handed over by the Madras Regimental Centre, Wellington to the Police Station, Wellington for their investigation and further necessary action.

(c) Posters, Leaflets & brochures are being published by Army Headquarter giving recruitment procedures and these are widely distributed in various colleges, Schools and to State Authorities upto Tehsil levels through Zonal Recruitment Office & Branch Recruitment Offices.

Joining of Duties by Selected Candidates in Defence Depot

4156. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2601 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th March, 1997 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that selected candidates in Group 'D' Post (Mazdoor) in Central Ordinance Depot, Shakurbasti, Delhi have been waiting long to join their duties after completing all selection formalities; and